



State Library of Massachusetts - Special Collections Department

Ms. Coll. 89

Paul Andrew Dever Papers, 1921-1950: Guide

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator: Dever, Paul Andrew, 1903-1958.

Call Number: Ms. Coll. 89

Extent: 2 boxes (2 linear feet)

Preferred Citation Style: *Folder Title, Box Number #.* Paul Andrew Dever Papers. State Library of Massachusetts Special Collections.

About This Finding Aid: Description based on DACS.

Provenance: Gift of the family of William X. Wall, 1994.

Processed by: Finding aid prepared by Jennifer Hanna, 1996; updated by Abigail Cramer, July, 2012.

Abstract: This collection documents Paul Dever's term as Massachusetts Attorney General.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The majority of the material in this collection is from Dever's tenure as Attorney General, specifically the years 1939 and 1940. The collection includes correspondence, which includes letters to Dever from his constituents with questions about laws as well as personal correspondence. It should be noted that the large increase in the number of letters at the end of September 1940 is a result of Dever's nomination as Democratic candidate for Governor and consists of congratulatory letters received. The collection also includes invitations to events and functions in various Massachusetts communities. The rest of the collection includes court case information (primarily copies of cases), campaign information, and speeches.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Paul A. Dever was born in Boston, MA on January 5, 1903. He attended Boston Latin School and graduated from Boston University School of Law in 1926. Dever, a Democrat, was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1928. He served as a Representative until 1935, when he was elected Massachusetts Attorney General. While Attorney General, Dever helped the Commonwealth increase the collection of money from debtors, prosecuted extortionate money lenders, and appointed representatives of all races to the Attorney General's office. He served as Attorney General until 1941. In 1940, Dever won the Democratic nomination for Governor, but was defeated in the election. In 1941, he joined the United States Navy and served as Lieutenant Commander in the North Atlantic, European and African Sectors until 1945. In 1949, Dever successfully ran for Governor of Massachusetts and served through 1952. He died in 1958.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Arrangement

The material is arranged as received: alphabetically by folder title and then chronologically within each file. Correspondence folders are arranged first chronologically and then alphabetically by the sender's last name. Invitations are arranged chronologically by date of reply.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research during the Special Collections Department's regular hours.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with Special Collections staff.

Languages and Scripts

The materials are entirely in English.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the family of William X. Wall, 1994.

Container List

Box #	Folder #	Folder Title	Date
1	1	Biography of Paul Dever	undated
1	2	Boston Elevated Railway Co., excerpt from 22nd Annual Report	1941
1	3	Campaign Materials (Ad mock ups, slogans, etc.)	undated, 1938-1940
1	4	Correspondence	1930
1	5	Correspondence	1935
1	6	Correspondence	1936
1	7	Correspondence	1937
1	8	Correspondence	January-July, 1938
1	9	Correspondence	August, 1938
1	10	Correspondence	September-December, 1938
1	11	Correspondence	January, 1939
1	12	Correspondence	February, 1939
1	13	Correspondence	March, 1939
1	14	Correspondence	April, 1939
1	15	Correspondence	May, 1939
1	16	Correspondence	June 1-15, 1939
1	17	Correspondence	June 16-30, 1939
1	18	Correspondence	July, 1939
1	19	Correspondence	August, 1939
1	20	Correspondence	September, 1939
1	21	Correspondence	October, 1939

1	22	Correspondence	November, 1939
1	23	Correspondence	December, 1939
1	24	Correspondence	January, 1940
1	25	Correspondence	February-March, 1940
1	26	Correspondence	April, 1940
1	27	Correspondence	May, 1940
1	28	Correspondence	June, 1940
1	29	Correspondence	July, 1940
1	30	Correspondence	August, 1940
1	31	Correspondence	September 1-18, 1940
1	32	Correspondence (A-F)	September 19, 1940
1	33	Correspondence (G-L)	September 19, 1940
1	34	Correspondence (M-N)	September 19, 1940
1	35	Correspondence (O-R)	September 19, 1940
1	36	Correspondence (S-Z)	September 19, 1940
1	37	Correspondence	September 20, 1940
1	37	Correspondence (A-F)	September 21, 1940
1	38	Correspondence (G-Z)	September 21, 1940
1	39	Correspondence (A-H)	September 23, 1940
1	40	Correspondence (M-Z)	September 23, 1940
1	40	Correspondence	September 24, 1940
1	41	Correspondence	September 26, 1940
1	41	Correspondence (A-E)	September 27, 1940
1	42	Correspondence (F-L)	September 27, 1940
1	43	Correspondence (M-P)	September 27, 1940

1	44	Correspondence (R-Z)	September 27, 1940
1	45	Correspondence (A-M)	September 28, 1940
1	46	Correspondence (P-Z)	September 28, 1940
1	47	Correspondence	October, 1940
1	48	Correspondence	November, 1940
1	49	Correspondence	December, 1940
1	50	Correspondence	February, 1941
1	51	Correspondence	1943
1	52	Correspondence	undated
1	53	Court Case, Lillian E. Judkins v. Hyannis Public Library Association	1921
1	54	Court Case, Commonwealth v. Credit Clearing House	1936
1	55	Court Case, Commonwealth v. Robert F. Coleman	1937
1	56-57	Court Case, Commonwealth v. Assoc. Discount Corp., et al (2 folders)	1939
1	58	Court Case, Commonwealth v. Stratton Finance Co.	1940
1	59	Court Case, Reports of Contested Election Cases, H.1826	1923-1942
2	60	Court Case, dated materials	1931-1935
2	61	Court Case, dated materials	1937-1940
2	62	Court Case, undated materials	undated
2	63	Delegate lists	undated
2	64	Forms, blank	undated
2	65	Invitations	January-February, 1939

2	66	Invitations	March, 1939
2	67	Invitations	April 1-8, 1939
2	68	Invitations	April 10-29, 1939
2	69	Invitations	May 1-15, 1939
2	70	Invitations	May 16-31, 1939
2	71	Invitations	June, 1939
2	72	Invitations	July, 1939
2	73	Invitations	August, 1939
2	74	Invitations	September, 1939
2	75	Invitations	October, 1939
2	76	Invitations	November, 1939
2	77	Invitations	December, 1939
2	78	Invitations	January 1-15, 1940
2	79	Invitations	January 16-24, 1940
2	80	Invitations	January 25-31, 1940
2	81	Invitations	February 1-15, 1940
2	82	Invitations	February 16-29, 1940
2	83	Invitations	March 1-19, 1940
2	84	Invitations	March 20-30, 1940
2	85	Invitations	April 1-10, 1940
2	86	Invitations	April 11-19, 1940
2	87	Invitations	April 20-30, 1940
2	88	Invitations	May 1-14, 1940
2	89	Invitations	May 15-31, 1940
2	90	Invitations	June, 1940

2	91	Invitations	July, 1940
2	92	Invitations	August, 1940
2	93	Invitations	September, 1940
2	94	Invitations	October, 1940
2	95	Invitations	November, 1940
2	96	Invitations	December, 1940
2	97	Invitations, lists of those received	May, September, December, 1940
2	98	Invitations, various	1939-1940, 1945
2	99	Invitations	undated
2	100	Legislation Information	undated, 1939-1947
2	101	Massachusetts Report #10, Vol. II, State Data	1939
2	102	Miscellaneous	undated, 1936
2	103	Miscellaneous, handwritten notes	undated
2	104	Newspaper clippings, various	undated, 1940
2	105	Press releases	undated, 1938, 1942
2	106	Programs, Events Attended	1938-1939, 1950
2	107	Receipts	undated, 1939-1940
2	108	Speeches (partial and whole)	undated, 1936, 1940